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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE

1. Operational units, Convoy Troops, and Railway Troops were not subordinate to the Main Administration of Interior Troops (GUVV - Glavnoye Upravleniye Vnutrennykh Voysk), Moscow. He gave the following background information to clarify the status of the above mentioned troops.
- a. After the 1917 revolution, police and security functions were exercised first by the All Union Extraordinary Commission (VCHK - Vsesoyuznaya Chrezvychaynaya Komissiya - called CHEKA), and from 1922 or 1923 by the State Political Administration Agency (OGPU - Organ Gosudarstvennogo Politicheskogo Upravleniya). In the thirties, possibly in 1935, the OGPU was replaced by the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD - Narodnyy Komissariat Vnutrennykh Del). About 1940, an additional agency, the People's Commissariat of State Security (NKGB - Narodnyy Komissariat Gosudarstvennoy Bezopastnosti) was established. About 1946, the letters "NK" in NKVD and NKGB were changed to "M" (Ministerstvo - Ministry) and the MVD and MGB came into existence.

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- b. The NKVD/MVD had at its organization the following troops, all on the same level with each other and subordinated to the NKVD/MVD: Interior (Vnutrennyye), Railway (Zheleznodorozhnyye), Convoy (Konvoynyye), Border Guard (Pogranichnyye), Guard Troops for Special Objects (Po Okhrany Osobykh Ob'yektov), and Militia, the city and county police.
- c. Until 1944, the NKGB/MGB had no uniformed troops, only offices and officials (called "organs", a Soviet term for headquarters or staffs). In 1944, the NKGB activated Operational (Operativnyye) Troops (Operational units), also called Troops for Special Commitment (Voyska Osobogo Naznacheniya).
- d. In 1950 or 1951, control of the Border Guard Troops, Interior Troops, and Militia was transferred from the MVD to the MGB. The MVD was left with the Railway Troops, Convoy Troops, and Guard Troops for Special Objects.
- e. [] the MGB was completely deactivated. Some units and offices still used the MGB seal and stamp, but all Border Troops, Interior Troops, Operational Troops, and Militia became subordinate to the MVD.
- f. [] the MVD had the following subordinate Main Administrations, all on an equal level: Interior Troops, Convoy Troops, Railway Troops, Operational Troops, Border Guard Troops, Guard Troops for Special Objects, and Militia. Strength and T/O known to Source are given in para. 3, below. Local fire departments were also included in uniformed MVD personnel.

2. Locations of Border Guard Troops units known to Source were given in [] He also knew of the 2nd and 4th MVD Divs., probably Special Commitment (OSNAZ - Osobogo Naznacheniya), located in Vilna N 54-20, E 25-207 and Shauli (Siaulai) N 55-58, E 22-337. He did not know which division was at which location. He knew that the 1st Sep. Moscow Rifle Div. of Special Commitment (Pervaya Osobaya Moskovskaya Strelkovaya Diviziya Osobogo Naznacheniya) was stationed in Moscow in 1952. He could not give any additional locations or numerical identifications. He stated that the units were scattered all over the USSR and probably in Soviet-occupied territory.

3. Source had no data on headquarters units of Operational Troops, Convoy Troops, Railway Troops, Guard Troops for Special Objects, Interior Troops, or Militia. He was of the opinion that these units had the same headquarters organization as Border Guard Troops (See [])

- a. He gave the following T/O information on subordinate units of each type of MVD troops:

Operational Troops - Source believed that a division had 8,000 - 12,000 officers and EM, and consisted of three regiments plus service, supply, signal, engineer, and transportation units. Each regiment had about 2,000 officers and EM, and consisted of three battalions, plus service, supply, signal, engineer, and transportation units. Each battalion had about 500 officers and EM, and consisted of three companies. Each company had about 125 officers and EM, and consisted of three platoons of three squads each. A squad had 1 NCO and 12 EM. He knew no further T/O of Operational Troops.

Interior Troops - Source believed that the highest unit [] was a regiment, which was identical to a regiment of Operational Troops (see above). He knew no further T/O of Interior Troops.

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Border Guard Troops - For T/O, [REDACTED]

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Militia - T/O unknown**Convoy Troops - T/O unknown****Railway Troops - T/O unknown****Guard Troops for Special Objects - T/O unknown****b. Source gave the following strength breakdown of MVD troops:**

Operational Troops - About 100,000. Source knew of three divisions (see para. 2, above). He did not know the total number of divisions.

Interior Troops - About 150,000

Border Guard Troops - 300,000. The Border Guard Troops had 110 detachments, each with about 2,500 officers and EM. From various orders, and hearsay at the Senior MGB Officers' School, Source heard of all detachments from 1 to 110, and was sure that there were 110. Including OCS students and border district (Okrug) personnel, Source estimated total strength at no less than 300,000 officers and EM.

Militia - Unknown. In a conversation in 1947 with [REDACTED] (1944), and later Political Officer, Main Administration of Militia, Moscow, Source learned that there were 130,000 armed and uniformed Militia personnel in Moscow alone.

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Convoy Troops - About 100,000 - 150,000

Railway Troops - About 100,000

Guard Troops for Special Objects - About 150,000 - 200,000

Source heard that the overall strength of the MVD/MGB troops was about 1,000,000, not including the Militia. All figures above were based on hearsay and conversations with other officers.

c. Source believed that all units were equipped with only small arms, such as pistols, carbines, and MG's. He never heard of any units having tanks, artillery, or mortars. Source believed that all units had an unknown number of trucks, sedans, grenades, transceivers, switchboards, telephone equipment, engineer tools, etc. No further details on weapons and equipment.

d. He was positive that Convoy Troops were independent units directly subordinate to the MVD [REDACTED] During 1941-1943, Convoy Troops were attached to Interior Troops for special missions.

4. Source gave the following information on the guarding of important installations by MVD troops:

Railway Troops - Guarded trains, depots, tunnels, railroad bridges, and railroad stations.

Guard Troops for Special Objects - Guarded forced labor camps, prisons, armament factories, government buildings, atomic plants, experimental factories, and laboratories.

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Interior Troops - Guarded air fields and Party buildings.

Operational Troops - Normally had no such duties. [redacted] Source saw units of the 1st Sep. Moscow Rifle Div. of Special Commitment guarding the parade grounds during the 7 November parade in Moscow.

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Convoy Troops - No such duties.

Border Guard Troops - No such duties.

Militia - No such duties.

[redacted] important persons were guarded by MGB officers. Source did not know the present system used, or if MVD troops had such duty.

He have the following information on the use of MVD troops for suppression, collectivization, relocation, etc.:

Railway Troops - Operated trains transporting groups going to forced labor camps, or groups being relocated.

Guard Troops for Special Objects - The only duties of these troops connected with suppression, etc., were guarding forced labor camps and prisons.

Interior Troops - Used for suppression of revolts.

Operational Troops - Used for special duties such as riot control, suppressions of subversive elements, resettlement of dissident groups, and combat of revolts by ethnic groups.

Convoy Troops - Escorted prisoners in transit and helped in deportation operations..

Border Guard Troops - Secured Soviet frontiers against entry of alien agents and saboteurs, and prevented the escape of illegal border crossers.

Militia - Was responsible for the local control of the populace. Source stated that the Militia was the most brutal and most hated agency in the MVD.

Control of the population in event of disaster was handled by the Militia, and other MVD troops usually had no such duties. However, in the 1945 earthquakes at Ashkhabad N 37-57, E 58-237, Interior Troops were brought in to aid the Militia in the control of looters and to guard banks, railroads, and Party and government buildings.

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